

Juvenile Justice Services

What is the service?

- Rehabilitation involving vocational, educational, and behavioral health services for youth (8-21 years old) with multiple criminal offenses or serious offense, as determined by the state legislature's determinate sentencing system. This model of services is called the Evidence Based Model, and has been used in Washington since 2000.
- The "Juvenile Offender Sentencing Grid" provides the framework on deciding how juveniles are referred, taking into account whether it's a first offense and the severity.²
- Websites:
 - Overview: <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/jra/>

How/where is the service provided?

- 33 local juvenile courts in Washington refer youth to the Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration under the "determinate sentencing system" (created by state legislature) which also applies to adults (combining seriousness of offense and history of offenses for length of time served, often 30 days).
- JRA Division of Institutions Programs operates three institutions, one work camp and one basic training camp. The institutions are located in Snoqualmie, Centralia, and Chehalis. The work camp is located in Naselle and the Basic Training Camp is in Connell, WA. Each of these facilities serves as the origin of services for adolescent offenders. They receive cognitive behavioral treatment interventions, which include vocational, educational and behavioral interventions by trained staff members.
- As youth progress and improve in treatment, they move to a less restrictive community facility, usually for 4-5 months. These sites are structured while allowing youth to continue in treatment, go to high school, and have jobs.
- JRA Division of Community Programs currently operates seven State operated Community Facilities, three contracted Community Facilities and specialized foster care. Locations include Olympia, Lakewood, Woodinville, Renton, Tacoma, Ellensburg, Richland, Wenatchee, Spokane, Yakima, and Ephrata.
- Youth are required to pay up to 50 percent of restitution damage through community service, to understand the harm that they have created.
- Once sentencing requirements are complete, one of three things occurs: aged out, living with families on parole, and living with families off of parole. On parole, JRA parole case managers work with family and youth to improve communication, expectations, and assist in substance abuse programs, sex offender treatment, family therapy, and mentoring.
- Beginning in 2002, the "Integrated Treatment Model" was implemented. One of the components is after-parole activities focusing on the whole family instead of primarily on the adolescent offender [Functional Family Parole (FFP)].¹

¹ Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, "Integrated Treatment Model", Website: http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/JRA/ITM_Design_Report.pdf. Accessed 4/20/05.

Eligibility

- Court appoints any juvenile 8-21 years old according to the Sentencing Guidelines of state legislature.²

Who is receiving the service?

Characteristics of Residential Population, March 31, 2005³

<i>Gender</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Male	778	91.1%
Female	76	8.9%

<i>Age</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
< 15	91	10.7%
15-17	584	68.4%
18-20	179	21.0%

Common Issues Encountered in Residential Care (Last updated January 2005)

<i>Description</i>	<i>Involved in Residential Care (%)</i>
Significant mental health issues	64%
Chemically dependent	81%
Cognitively impaired	40%
Sexual misconduct issues	30%
Two or more of the above	60%

Issues/concerns⁴

- WA State Institute for Public Policy conducted a study demonstrating that evidence-based rehabilitation and therapeutic interventions significantly dropped crime recidivism compared to the former Corrections Model.⁵
- Increasing pressure on residential and community counselors to serve multiple needs.
- Conflicting demands between incarceration and rehabilitation

² State of Washington Sentencing Guidelines Commission "Juvenile Disposition Manual 2004", Website: http://www.sgc.wa.gov/PUBS/Juvenile/Juvenile_Disposition_Manual_2004.pdf Accessed 5/25/05

³ Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, "Population Summary Report, January – March 2005". Published April 12, 2005.

⁴ Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration, <http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/jra/>

⁵ Washington State Institute for Public Policy, "Recommended Quality Control Standards: Washington State Research-Based Juvenile Offender Programs". December 2003. Website: <http://www.wsipp.wa.gov/>